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The Academic Job Search Handbook—Mary Morris Heiberger and Julia Miller Vick. The authors provide extensive instruction on how to prepare a vita, what to expect in an interview, and what kind of supporting documents are most important for a job in the academic community. The information is bolstered by tips on how to locate potential openings and network through professional associations and colleagues. Advice on how to initiate a search and what to expect once the job is secured makes this a particularly useful guide for graduate students. U of Pa Pr, 1996, 194 p., paperback, \$14.95.

The Car That Could: The Inside Story of GM's Revolutionary Electric Vehicle—Michael Shnayer-son. On Earth Day 1990, then-Chairman of General Motors Roger Smith declared that GM would produce an electric car. California had so much confidence in Smith's claim that the state legislature passed a mandate requiring the other car companies to do the same by 1998. But how does a virtually prehistoric corporate behemoth like GM comply? Not easily, according to this insider's account. Nevertheless, against the odds and accompanied by a number of personnel changes, GM is rolling out electric cars this month. This look at internal GM politics and relations with the oil lobby and others in the political arena is enlivened by the characters who created this car in a timely and fairly successful fashion. Random, 1996, 295 p., hardcover, \$25.00.

The Horned Dinosaurs: A Natural History—Peter Dodson. Incredibly comprehensive in scope, this text surveys the anatomy, biology, and geography of *Triceratops*—one of the last dinosaurs to walk Earth—and its horned, rhinoceroslike ceratopsian relatives. Methods of defense are outlined, as are other controversial issues, including posture, gait, footprints, diet, sexual dimorphism, and the cause of the dinosaurs' disappearance. Princeton U Pr, 1996, 346 p., color plates and b&w illus., hardcover, \$35.00.

The Human Mind Explained: An Owner's Guide to the Mysteries of the Mind—Susan A. Greenfield, ed. This illustrated, jargonfree guide provides a tour of the biological and psychological functions of the brain. Beginning with brain anatomy and then showing how structure coordinates a wide range of subconscious functions, the authors draw on a wealth of case histories. Rounding out the volume are chapters on various mental states, such as phobias and manic depression, and a section on our ability to communicate, analyze, think, and dream. H Holt & Co, 1996, 192 p., color photos and illus., hardcover, \$40.00.

The Medicine of ER: Or, How We Almost Die—Harlan Gibbs and Alan Duncan Ross. Two physicians analyze the popular television show *ER* and assess how close this dose of fiction comes to real-life situations faced daily in emergency rooms. Gibbs and Ross explain medical procedures and scenarios like the one in which Dr. Greene misdiagnoses a pregnant woman with eclampsia. Definitions of some common terminology bantered about and descriptions of how the hierarchy of personnel works are also included. Basic, 1996, 232 p., hardcover, \$18.00.

Tough Choices: Facing the Challenge of Food Scarcity—Lester R. Brown. The president of the Worldwatch Institute notes that grain and corn prices skyrocketed earlier this year as the carry-over stocks of grain dropped to 50 days for world consumption—a record low. Brown shows how the demand for food is colliding with some of Earth's natural limitations, including the sustainable yield of oceanic fisheries and the aquifers that supply irrigation water. He then outlines the choices that many countries are going to have to make between stabilized populations and dietary improvements and between land for crops and for roads, among others. Norton, 1996, 159 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$11.00.

Water: A Natural History—Alice Outwater. While industry has made great strides in eliminating industrial pollution from our waterways, the Clean Water Act is only designed to depollute water not make it healthy contends Outwater, an environmental engineer. She traces 500 years of water history to show how nature cleaned water before people got involved. She describes eloquently how the heavy feet of water buffalo helped replenish the water table and how beaver-built wetlands were once a substantial force in water ecology. Healthy waterways are possible if we change how we look at management of public lands, she argues. Basic, 1996, 210 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$23.00.

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Natalie Angier has taken pains to learn her science from the molecule up. She knows all that scientists know—and sometimes more—about the power of symmetry in sexual relations, about the brutal courting habits of dolphins, about the grand deceit of orchids, about the impact of female and male preferences on evolution. *The Beauty of the Beastly* takes the pulse of everything from the supple structure of DNA to the erotic ways of barn swallows, queen bees, and the endangered, otherworldly primate called the aye-aye. Few writers have covered so many facets of biology so evocatively in one book. Timothy Ferris, author of the acclaimed *Coming of Age in the Milky Way*, says Angier is "one of the strongest and wittiest science writers in the world today." "Like Alan Lightman or Lewis Thomas," writes Nobel laureate David Baltimore, "she draws from science a meaning that few scientists see, and her writing takes on an unusual dimension of artistry." And Sherwin Nuland, author of *How We Die*, believes that "Natalie Angier is in the tradition of the great nature writers." This is a book for general readers and students of the life sciences alike.

—from Houghton Mifflin

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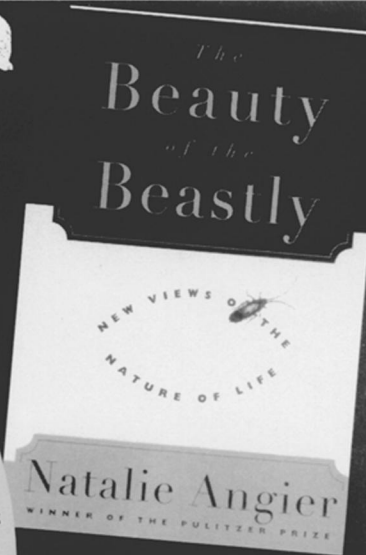
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